

NY 139-301

I. INTERVIEWS OF SUSPECTS

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 5/9/73

*N. H. 10*

On May 1, 1973 ROGER J. STONE JR. voluntarily appeared at the New York Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) where he was interviewed by Special Agents (SAs) VINCENT A. ALVINO and HOWARD R. LINSKOTT who identified themselves as SAs of the FBI. At the inception of the interview, SA ALVINO explained the purpose of the interview and advised STONE of his constitutional rights as set forth in a "Voluntary Appearance; Advice of Rights" form which he read and executed. STONE furnished the following information:

He is presently living at the residence of his parents on Old Farm Road, Lewisboro, New York, telephone 914-533-2734. He is presently engaged as an election campaign worker in the offices of "Mc Mahon For County Executive", 147 Mamaroneck Avenue, White Plains, New York.

In the early part of 1972, STONE was a student at George Washington University, Washington D.C., where he served as the Chairman of a group known as the "D.C. College Republicans". While functioning in this capacity, he built an association with BART PORTER who was in charge of scheduling activities for the Committee for the Reelection of the President (CREP). On numerous occasions, possibly five to ten times, PORTER enlisted his efforts on such matters as crowd-raising, leafletting, and organizing support for President NIXON on various issues. During this period, STONE was also working as an aide to Congressman ROBERT STEELE of Connecticut. STONE saw fit to volunteer that STEELE was at one time an agent for the Central Intelligence Agency.

STONE advised that his relationship with PORTER matured further when STONE was designated by STEELE to coordinate a campaign trip made by STEELE to New Hampshire with the planned activities of CREP. During this trip, STONE was necessarily in contact with PORTER.

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On 5/1/73, at New York, New York File # NY 139-301  
5/3/73  
by SAS VINCENT A. ALVINO and  
HOWARD R. LINSKOTT/vaa/ems Date dictated 5/7/73

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STONE characterized the above contacts in his relationship with PORTER as completely legitimate and he could recall nothing of an illicit nature which PORTER asked him to perform.

However, on one occasion during the Spring of 1972, PORTER summoned STONE to his office at CREP in Washington, D.C. and asked him if he would be willing to make a trip to Manchester, New Hampshire, for the purpose of planting a leaflet at Mc Govern Headquarters and at the Manchester Union Leader newspaper. STONE agreed to perform this mission and PORTER gave him yellow leaflets which stated in effect that EDMUND MUSKIE was the candidate of the Conservative Democrats. PORTER did not explain the intended effect of the leaflet, but STONE assumed that this leaflet would serve to irrevocably divide the factions of Democrats so as to prevent a strong coalition behind the eventual presidential candidate of the Democrats. The pretended issuer of this leaflet was a group named "The Committee for a New Democratic Coalition".

Following the instructions of PORTER, STONE travelled to Manchester, New Hampshire, and planted one copy of the leaflet in the storefront headquarters of GEORGE MC GOVERN. He delivered another copy of the leaflet with a lobby receptionist at the offices of the Manchester Union Leader newspaper and requested that it be delivered to the political editor.

PORTER gave STONE cash in advance to cover the expenses of the above trip. The cash only covered the transportation expenses and the cost of meals. STONE received no monetary compensation for the performance of the act itself. STONE recalled that he travelled from Washington D.C. to Boston via Alleghany Airlines or Eastern Airlines and completed the trip to Manchester from Boston by bus. He returned to Washington D.C. from Manchester on the same day in the same manner.

STONE was accompanied on the trip by MICHAEL COLLIGAN, a fellow student at George Washington University. STONE mentioned the purpose of the trip to COLLIGAN who decided he wanted to accompany STONE. COLLIGAN remained in the street in Manchester while STONE made his visits at the Manchester Union Leader and MC GOVERN Headquarters. COLLIGAN did not receive reimbursement for his out-of-pocket expenses incurred in connection with this trip.

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Upon his return to Washington D.C. STONE immediately telephoned PORTER to advise him that his mission had been accomplished. PORTER indicated that he would recontact STONE in the future.

Approximately two weeks after the above trip, PORTER telephoned STONE at the Adams Hall Dormitory, 730 19th Street, Northwest, Washington D.C. and asked STONE to come to his office at CREP. On the same day, STONE met with PORTER in his office at CREP where PORTER asked him if he would be willing to travel to Manchester to make a cash contribution to Mc Closkey Campaign Headquarters; PORTER wanted STONE to disguise himself as a member of the Gay Liberation Movement when making this contribution. STONE flatly rejected this proposal. However, he concurred with the basic theme of this tactic and thus suggested to PORTER that the cash contribution be made in the name of a radical campus organization. STONE suggested that the contribution be made in the name of the Young Socialist Alliance (YSA). He thought of YSA because the YSA Chapter at George Washington University was the most prominent of the left-wing, radically-prone groups operating on his campus. PORTER adopted STONE's suggestion and told STONE that he would secure stationary with the letterhead of the YSA.

Approximately two or three days later, PORTER telephoned STONE and had him come to his office at CREP. PORTER furnished STONE with five pieces of white stationary which bore the blue letterhead, "YSA", "Amherst College". PORTER also furnished STONE with \$125.00 in cash; he could not recall the denominational makeup of this cash. PORTER instructed STONE to get the cash changed into one dollar bills and coin, travel to Manchester, donate it to Mc Closkey Headquarters, and obtain a receipt on the YSA stationary. PORTER instructed STONE to dress in dungarees and a sweater in order to insure the impression of being a student.

Immediately upon leaving PORTER, STONE went to the branch of the First National Bank of Washington D.C., located near CREP Headquarters, and exchanged the bills that PORTER had given him, into rolls of coin and one dollar bills. He then went home and subsequently found a large jar with a green top that was to be used for delivering the contribution.

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One day later, STONE travelled alone from Washington D.C. to Manchester where he went directly to Mc Closkey Campaign Headquarters which he recalled was located on the second floor over a garage or store. He walked into the headquarters and identified himself as the treasurer of the YSA Chapter of Amherst College. He then made the contribution of \$125.00 contained in the jar which he had been carrying in a duffel-bag. He obtained a receipt which read "Received from YSA, Amherst College \$125.00".

On the same day, he travelled back to Washington D.C. from Manchester and called PORTER to tell him that he had accomplished his mission. PORTER instructed him to report to him next morning with the receipt.

On the next morning, STONE went to PORTER's office at CREP and handed him the receipt. PORTER then instructed STONE to write a letter to the Manchester Union Leader which stated in essence, that the writer of the letter was a student at Amherst College and that he understood that MC CLOSKEY had accepted a contribution from YSA. The letter stated that he was appalled that MC CLOSKEY would accept a gift from such an organization. The letter was written on a legal-size pad which PORTER had provided. When he completed the letter, STONE gave it to PORTER who said he would handle the mailing of it. STONE then left PORTER's office assuming that he would mail the letter. PORTER never did specifically state to him that he had actually mailed this letter.

Following the procedure of the first mission, PORTER gave STONE cash in advance to cover the expenses of transportation and meals. STONE did not receive any monetary compensation for services performed. His mode of travel was the same as that used on his first mission to Manchester for PORTER. STONE advised that ANN WESCHE, his fiancée, who was a student at George Washington University at the time, knew about the purpose of the above trip.

In April, 1972, after the above two missions, STONE approached PORTER about the possibility of obtaining a job with the Young Voters for the President, a youth arm of CREP. STONE was afforded an interview with KEN RIETZ, the Director of this organization, through the influence of PORTER. Approximately

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ten days after the interview, RIETZ informed STONE that he did not have a job for him. At this point, he discussed with PORTER the possibility of obtaining a job with CREP as a "surrogate scheduler" which involved making up schedules of speakers who would represent President NIXON in speaking engagements during the campaign. STONE told PORTER that he would want to be paid \$550.00 per month for this job. PORTER advised that the job only paid \$400.00 per month. STONE felt that \$400.00 per month would not meet his minimum subsistence level and he pressed PORTER for \$550.00 per month. PORTER relented and agreed to pay STONE \$550.00 per month; this sum would consist of a \$400.00 per month payroll check issued by CREP and \$150.00 per month in cash received directly from PORTER. PORTER explained that the \$150.00 in cash would be paid to STONE from him until such time that the CREP payroll check could be increased to \$550.00 per month.

After approximately ten days had elapsed from the time of the above salary discussion meeting, STONE recontacted PORTER to express his anxiety about not yet starting his job with CREP. PORTER told STONE that he would check to determine if STONE had been approved for the job as "surrogate scheduler" and when he should start work with CREP.

About three or four days later, PORTER contacted STONE and said that he was looking for a trustworthy individual to travel to states where campaign primaries were being held to gather intelligence information on a first-hand basis on such matters as organizational morale, factionalism, and the general political atmosphere. In addition, PORTER wanted this individual to be capable of doing sophisticated political pranks which would have the effect of disrupting the election campaigns of political opponents. STONE told PORTER that he would take this matter into consideration and recontact him.

After several days, STONE called MORTON BLACKWELL of Arlington, Virginia, and asked him if he could suggest someone who possessed those talents that PORTER described. In a few days, BLACKWELL recontacted STONE and told him that MIKE MC MINOWAY was such an individual. BLACKWELL related that he had contacted MC MINOWAY explaining that he had a friend who was doing research on Kentucky politics. MC MINOWAY expressed interest in this type of work and BLACKWELL told MC MINOWAY that

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his friend would be contacting him in the future. BLACKWELL did not mention STONE's name to MC MINOWAY. BLACKWELL told STONE that MC MINOWAY was then employed in a General Motors plant in the Louisville, Kentucky area.

STONE then reported to PORTER that he had found MC MINOWAY as the person that PORTER had in mind. PORTER authorized STONE to contact MC MINOWAY under the pretext that he was a representative of a group of conservative businessmen who wanted to hire him to collect information on, and sabotage those liberal democratic presidential candidates. PORTER further instructed STONE to set up a meeting with MC MINOWAY in Kentucky and fly down to confer with MC MINOWAY to see if he was interested in the job; if he could get a leave of absence from General Motors; and, discuss the terms of payment with MC MINOWAY. PORTER instructed that STONE make this initial contact with MC MINOWAY from a public pay telephone.

Pursuant to the above instructions, STONE telephoned MC MINOWAY and arranged to meet him in the lobby at a Holiday Inn or Ramada Inn located near the Louisville Airport. STONE identified himself as JASON RAINER, the representative of the group of conservative businessmen. It was arranged that he would be able to recognize MC MINOWAY by his manner of dress.

Prior to his personal meeting with MC MINOWAY, STONE was further instructed by PORTER that he should at no time use his true name in his relationship with MC MINOWAY or indicate that he was in anyway connected with CREP. PORTER authorized STONE to offer MC MINOWAY a \$1000.00 per month "rate of payment" for personal services in addition to being compensated for expenses incurred. PORTER also instructed STONE to advise MC MINOWAY that any money he received from him should be considered as income and therefore, liable to income tax; he was to be advised that no money would be withheld for income tax purposes by his employers. STONE was given \$500.00 in cash by PORTER to be delivered to MC MINOWAY as an initial "good faith" payment in advance if he agreed to accept the offer. PORTER instructed STONE to obtain a receipt for this payment. MC MINOWAY was also to be instructed to obtain receipts for expenses incurred.

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It was at the above meeting with PORTER concerning instructions to be given MC MINOWAY, that PORTER told STONE that he had been hired by CREP as a "surrogate scheduler". It was confirmed that STONE would receive \$400.00 per month in a payroll check issued by CREP and an additional \$150.00 per month from STONE as a supplement. u

STONE did not feel that his success in obtaining the services of MC MINOWAY was a condition precedent to his obtaining the job of "surrogate scheduler". Likewise, he did not feel that the \$150.00 cash supplement was specifically related to the MC MINOWAY operation and therefore not related to compensation for duties performed as a "surrogate scheduler".

STONE then flew to Louisville Airport and met with MC MINOWAY in the lobby of the Holiday Inn or Ramada Inn in the vicinity of the airport. STONE explained the nature of services expected of MC MINOWAY as set forth above. The rate of compensation of \$1000 per month plus expenses was mutually agreed upon. STONE paid MC MINOWAY the \$500.00 in cash as the "good faith" advance payment for two weeks of services and obtained a receipt. STONE told MC MINOWAY that he would be calling him soon with further instructions. STONE assured MC MINOWAY that he would never instruct him to do anything illegal. MC MINOWAY assured STONE that he could obtain a leave of absence from General Motors. STONE flew back to Washington D.C. on the same day; he did not register at any hotel while in Louisville.

STONE immediately reported to PORTER that the employment arrangement with MC MINOWAY had been consummated and gave PORTER the receipt for the \$500.00 payment. Within one week, STONE commenced working at CREP offices as a "surrogate scheduler". The day after STONE reported to CREP offices, PORTER instructed him to contact MC MINOWAY and dispatch him to Florida to begin infiltrating the campaigns of the Democrats during the primary campaign. PORTER instructed that MC MINOWAY learn the different headquarters setup of the Democrats and get started in disruption tactics and pranks against the Democrats.

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Thus, the political sabotage activities of MC MINOWAY were launched. MC MINOWAY was operated by STONE from late April through early August, 1972. STONE estimated that the total payment to MC MINOWAY during this period came to approximately \$9000.00 to \$10,000, consisting of \$4000.00 in salary payments and \$5000.00 to \$6000.00 in expenses.

STONE never met MC MINOWAY after the above Louisville meeting. Their method of communication was the telephone with STONE placing the call to MC MINOWAY. STONE recalled that he had conversations with MC MINOWAY on the average of once a week. The telephone conversations for the most part consisted of oral reports furnished by MC MINOWAY. He never furnished written reports of his activities. However, when it was necessary to mail materials to STONE, such as Democrat campaign schedules, advance press releases and expense receipts, which he had acquired, MC MINOWAY would mail this material to a post office box at a Post Office Station in Washington D.C.; he thought the name of the station was the George Washington Station. STONE advised that he did not pick up this mailed material. A CREP volunteer named DAVE CHEW usually picked up the mail, to the best of his knowledge.

STONE paid MC MINOWAY by sending telegram money orders to his wife, Mrs. MICHAEL MC MINOWAY, 133 Manslick Drive, Fairdale, Kentucky. STONE recalled that this address was slightly incorrect, but did not prevent or noticeably delay payment. Payment was usually made in the middle of the month.

STONE advised that MC MINOWAY had complete discretion as to the methods he utilized to acquire information and as to type of campaign disruptions he carried out. He was never given specific assignments by STONE; however, there was the following exception:

During the Florida Democratic Primary Campaign, PORTER spoke with MC MINOWAY who was then in Miami, and instructed him to buy a camera and attempt to get a photograph of DICK TUCK, the noted political prankster who was employed by the Democrats. PORTER identified himself to MC MINOWAY as the boss of JASON RAINER. To the best of his knowledge, this was the only time PORTER was in contact with MC MINOWAY.

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STONE recalled the following highlights in the sabotage activities for which MC MINOWAY took credit:

During the Wisconsin Primary, he sent out engraved invitations to approximately 200 Democrats to attend a campaign breakfast with HUBERT HUMPHREY which failed to take place.

During the Wisconsin Primary, he stuffed envelopes with campaign literature of HUMPHREY designed to appeal to Negroes and Puerto Ricans and mailed them to predominantly white union workers, and vice versa.

During the California Primary, he fouled up the telephone lists of potential voters to be contacted, resulting in the failure to contact many and others being contacted several times.

MC MINOWAY used the name of MIKE SNOW, among others, as he infiltrated the Democrat Primary Campaigns, as a volunteer worker in Florida, Wisconsin, California, and Washington D.C.. He finished his tour as a volunteer for MC GOVERN in Washington D.C. in August, 1972. The code name used for MC MINOWAY between PORTER and STONE was "Sedan Chair II".

STONE ceased operating MC MINOWAY about mid-August, 1972 at the instruction of PORTER. STONE recalled that PORTER returned to Washington D.C. after a brief trip in August and told STONE that the services of MC MINOWAY would not be needed anymore. PORTER did not give any reasons for discontinuing the operation of MC MINOWAY and STONE could offer no speculation in this regard. Following PORTER's instructions, STONE notified MC MINOWAY that his services were no longer needed.

STONE advised that at the time PORTER issued his discontinuance instructions on MC MINOWAY, he also told STONE that he could no longer provide the \$150.00 per month cash supplement to his salary; PORTER advised STONE that he no longer had the cash to continue the supplement. STONE complained to PORTER and J. CURTIS HERGE, the Master Scheduler at CREP, about his cut in pay. About two or three days later, PORTER advised him that he would then start to receive a \$550.00 straight salary check issued by CREP.

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STONE advised that he did not consider any of the activities related above which he performed under the guidance and instruction of PORTER, to be a violation of any law. He regarded such activities to be a way of life in the political campaign arenas of this country, and thus, felt no guilt.

STONE advised that the only information which he possessed specifically relating to the Watergate incident, concerned a telephone call which he answered at the residence of PORTER. He related that while PORTER was in California on an official visit for CREP, STONE went to the residence of PORTER at 4340 Garfield Street, Washington D.C., on June 19, 1972 in order to feed and tend to PORTER's dogs. At approximately 6:00 PM, STONE answered a telephone call from an individual who identified himself as JIM MC CORD. The caller initially asked if Mr. PORTER was at home. STONE responded that Mr. PORTER was out of town and asked if there was a message. The caller then said he was JIM MC CORD. STONE asked him if this was some kind of joke. The caller responded that it was not a joke. STONE asked if there was a telephone number where PORTER could reach him. The caller responded, "No, I'm in the lockup; I'll get in touch". The caller then hung up.

STONE immediately telephoned CREP Headquarters and was connected to JEAN MASON who gave STONE the telephone number in California where PORTER could be reached. STONE then telephoned PORTER at the Beverly Hills Hotel, Los Angeles, California, and told him about the above telephone call. PORTER asked him to relate the exact text of the telephone conversation two or three times and then told STONE that it was a prank call in his opinion. PORTER told him that someone at CREP would also question him on June 20, 1972 concerning this telephone call. ROBERT ODLE, an official at CREP in Washington D.C., did question him on the morning of June 20, 1972 about the telephone call received from MC CORD.

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The only other incident that STONE could recall that might shed light on the overall political sabotage operations of the Republicans, concerned an inquiry by GEORGE GORTON during the summer of 1972. STONE advised that at the time, GORTON was the College Director of the Young Voters for the President. GORTON asked STONE, "Do you have a young Republican in Washington D.C., who needs a job". STONE responded that he did and furnished GORTON with the name of TED BRILL, Chairman of the GEORGE WASHINGTON University College Republicans. STONE advised that he was never informed of the nature of the job and that he had no contact with BRILL during the entire summer. DC

On May 3, 1973, STONE, in response to efforts to locate him, telephoned the New York Office of the FBI and spoke to SA ALVINO. He was advised that it would be necessary to question him further concerning his relationship with PORTER. STONE requested that the questions be asked during this telephone call as a matter of convenience to him. He was advised that he should consider this telephone conversation as an extension of his interview on May 1, 1973. STONE stated that he fully understood and he furnished the following information:

In July, 1972 while residing at 1310 New Hampshire Avenue, Northwest, Washington D.C., he was then working at CREP Headquarters, Washington D.C.. On one occasion, PORTER called him to his office and told him that DARIUS KEATON was sending money addressed to him (STONE) by means of a Western Union money order. PORTER instructed STONE to pick up the money order and deliver the money to him. On the same day STONE picked up the money order at a Western Union branch on Connecticut Avenue, Washington D.C., and immediately delivered the money to PORTER at CREP headquarters.

STONE advised that the money order was made payable to him, bore his residence address, and that KEATON was the sender. STONE was not able to remember the amount of the money order, and could only recall that it was in excess of \$1000.00. U

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STONE advised that he could remember no other occasion when he received money for PORTER under such circumstances. STONE regarded himself as a mere messenger in the above transaction and he was not advised by PORTER of the intended purpose or disposition of the money. STONE received no indication from PORTER that any portion of the money was to be used in payments to MC MINOWAY.

STONE advised that although the circumstances of the above incident could be considered unusual, PORTER did not explain and STONE did not question the method of transmittal of the money from KEATON to PORTER.

STONE advised that after June 5, 1973 he will be residing at 1310 New Hampshire Avenue, Northwest, Washington D.C., telephone 202-223-1879.

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